

many Ethiopian Jews who were among the tens of thousands saved by Israel when they were airlifted to the Democratic Jewish State.

While I was back in Florida's Legislature, Israel reached yet another critical peace agreement, this time with Jordan, demonstrating once again Israel's enduring commitment to ending conflict.

I remember facing many challenges in my next role as Mayor of West Palm Beach but none compared to the daily barrage of terror attacks Israelis suffered during the Second Intifada.

And over the last few years, while I have served in the House of Representatives, Israel has accomplished so much even while faced with the constant threat of rocket attacks from Hamas in Gaza, Hezbollah terror in Lebanon, spill-over from the war in Syria, attacks from Sinai in Egypt, and the ire of a possible nuclear Iran.

Since its founding Israel has been at a near perpetual state of war, yet the resilience of Israeli people has allowed the nation to thrive and contribute so much to the community of nations.

In a tiny country where 60 percent of the land mass is desert, Israelis invented drip irrigation to make the desert bloom with vineyards and vegetable farms. They now share that technology with countries in Africa facing water scarcity where millions more people are being fed by cutting water use over 90 percent.

Israel also perfected seawater desalination which it is sharing today with California to help them during their drought. In fact, an Israeli company is helping to build what will become the largest desalination plant in the Western Hemisphere just north of San Diego.

Israel at 67 is a world leader in medicine, technology, defense, and energy. It is a country with whom the United States has partnered since President Harry Truman recognized the nascent state just minutes after its founding. And Israel is a country with whom we continue to partner because it represents freedom, democracy, and progress in a region where tyranny too often reigns.

As we celebrate more birthdays together in the future, I will do all I can to ensure Israel continues to flourish as a Jewish and democratic state, and that the bond between our two nations never falters.

Yom Huledet Sameach, happy 67th birthday to our enduring ally Israel.

**INMAN FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
150TH ANNIVERSARY**

HON. TREY GOWDY

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2015

Mr. GOWDY. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation:

Whereas, Mount Calvary Baptist Church was formed July 28, 1865, with 19 charter members led by Pastor I. L. West; and

Whereas, after several name changes in 1915 the name was changed to its present name, Inman First Baptist Church; and

Whereas, Inman First Baptist Church continues to be one of the leading churches in Inman, South Carolina, and under the leadership of Dr. Paul Moore the congregation continues to be active and enthusiastic members of our community; and

Whereas, Inman First Baptist Church is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year and this anniversary celebration will draw former and current members to Inman, South Carolina, to participate in this momentous milestone in the history of their church;

Now therefore, be it resolved that I, TREY GOWDY, do congratulate the members of Inman First Baptist Church in recognition of their 150th anniversary and thank them for their unwavering commitment, dedication, and contributions to Spartanburg County and to the Fourth Congressional District of South Carolina.

IN HONOR OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND'S 1975 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP LACROSSE TEAM AND COACH BUDDY BEARDMORE

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2015

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of the 40th anniversary of The University of Maryland Men's National Championship Lacrosse Team of 1975. And it's distinguished Coach Buddy Beardmore, and his players and coaches, and trainer Jim Weir who has since passed. Buddy brought two National Championship titles to Maryland, with his now famous "Be the Best" ethos, and brought the lacrosse world into the modern day age, with his weight training, running, and tactics both on and off the field. Their speed and strength and power were something to behold, and they are the benchmark by which any great team is measured today.

"Be the Best"

Now beat Hopkins guys!

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2015

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join with Armenians throughout the United States, Armenia, and the world in commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Armenian genocide. This past week, members and friends of the Armenian community gathered to remember April 24, 1915, when the arrest and murder of 200 Armenian politicians, academics, and community leaders in Constantinople marked the beginning of an eight-year campaign of extermination against the Armenian people by the Ottoman Empire.

Between 1915 and 1923, approximately 1.5 million Armenians were killed and over 500,000 more were exiled to the desert to die of thirst or starvation. The Armenian genocide was the first mass murder of the 20th century, a century that was sadly to be marked by many similar attempts at racial or ethnic extermination, from the Holocaust to the Rwandan genocide to Darfur, Sudan.

As we solemnly remember the victims of this tragedy, let us also celebrate the extraordinary strength and spirit of the Armenian people, who have fought successfully to preserve their culture and identity for over a thousand years. They overcame the horrors of genocide, two world wars, and decades of Soviet dominance in order to establish modern Armenia. In addition, the vibrant Armenian diaspora continues to thrive and around the world.

It is only by acknowledging and learning from the past that we can build a future free of racial, ethnic, and religious hate and violence. By remembering the Armenian genocide and speaking out against all such atrocities, we can live up to the promise made to all those who suffered of "never again."

CONGRATULATING THE EL MONTE UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT OF EL MONTE

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2015

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the El Monte Union High School District of El Monte, California for receiving the 2015 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School and District Sustainability Award. El Monte Union High School District was one of just 14 school districts across the country chosen to receive such an award and I am honored to represent them.

The Green Ribbon award recognizes schools and districts that shine in three areas of environmental sustainability. These three areas are: reducing utility cost and environmental impact, improving the environmental health on campus including fitness and nutrition, and offering effective sustainability educational programs. Schools and districts must excel in all three areas in order to receive the award.

We have a moral obligation to protect our environment. Every one of us should be chipping in to help preserve our planet. I am immensely proud to represent a school district that has taken this to a new level. The students, parents, and faculty members should be proud of themselves for their hard work. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the El Monte Union High School District, and the other schools and districts across the country who've received this year's Green Ribbon School Award. Thank you all for doing your part to preserve our planet.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the *Extensions of Remarks* section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, April 28, 2015 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

APRIL 29

9 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Department of Defense

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the National Guard and Reserve.

SD-192

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2016 for the Department of Homeland Security.

SD-342

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development

To hold hearings to examine opportunities for private investment in public infrastructure.

SD-538

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine five years after Deepwater Horizon, focusing on improvements and challenges in prevention and response.

SR-253

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine the King vs. Burwell Supreme Court case and congressional action that can be taken to protect small businesses and their employees.

SR-428A

9:35 a.m.

Committee on Finance

Business meeting to consider S. 335, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve 529 plans.

SD-215

2 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Department of Homeland Security

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Department of Homeland Security.

SD-138

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Environmental Protection Agency.

SD-124

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces

To hold hearings to examine military space programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SR-222

Committee on Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 152, to prohibit gaming activities on certain Indian land in Arizona until the expiration of certain gaming compacts; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine S. 248, to clarify the rights of Indians and Indian tribes on Indian lands under the National Labor Relations Act.

SD-628

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the Government Accountability Office's High Risk List and the Veterans Health Administration.

SR-418

APRIL 30

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine United States European Command programs and budget in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SD-G50

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2016 for the National Institutes of Health.

SD-124

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Subcommittee on Securities, Insurance, and Investment

To hold hearings to examine insurance capital rules and Financial Stability Oversight Council (FSOC) process.

SD-538

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 703, to reauthorize the weatherization and State energy programs, S. 720, to promote energy savings in residential buildings and industry, S. 858, to amend the National Energy Conservation Policy Act to encourage the increased use of performance contracting in Federal facilities, S. 523, to coordinate the provision of energy retrofitting assistance to schools, S. 600, to require the Secretary of Energy to establish an energy efficiency retrofit pilot program, S. 723, to amend the National Energy Conservation Policy Act to provide guidance on utility energy service contracts used by Federal agencies, S. 869, to improve energy performance in Federal buildings, S. 878, to establish a State residential building energy efficiency up-

grades loan pilot program, S. 886, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to provide for a smart energy and water efficiency pilot program, S. 888, to promote Federal-State partnerships for developing regional energy strategies and plans to mitigate risks in changing energy systems, S. 893, to establish an Energy Productivity Innovation Challenge (EPIC) to assist energy policy innovation in the States to promote the goal of doubling electric and thermal energy productivity by January 1, 2030, S. 939, to require the evaluation and consolidation of duplicative green building programs within the Department of Energy, S. 1029, to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from prescribing a final rule amending the efficiency standards for residential non-weatherized gas furnaces or mobile home furnaces until an analysis has been completed, S. 1038, to clarify that no express or implied warranty is provided by reason of a disclosure relating to voluntary participation in the Energy Star program, S. 1039, to require certain agencies to conduct assessments of data centers and develop data center consolidation and optimization plans to achieve energy cost savings, S. 1044, to enhance consumer access to electricity information and allow for the adoption of innovative products and services to help consumers manage their energy usage, S. 1046, to accelerate the adoption of smart building technologies in the private sector and key Federal agencies, S. 1047, to require the Secretary of Energy to review rulemaking proceedings of other Federal agencies for the potential to cause an adverse effect on the cost, time, or difficulty of complying with energy efficiency regulations, guidelines, or standards, S. 1048, to remove the authority of the Secretary of Energy to amend or issue new energy efficiency standards for ceiling fans, S. 1052, to require a study on the impact of State and local performance benchmarking and disclosure policies for commercial and multifamily buildings, to provide for competitive awards to utilities, States, and units of local government, S. 1053, to amend the National Energy Conservation Policy Act to promote alternative fueled vehicle fleets and infrastructure, and S. 1063, to amend title VI of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to establish a Federal energy efficiency resource standard for electricity and natural gas suppliers.

SD-366

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine safeguarding American interests in the East and South China Seas.

SD-419

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 993, to increase public safety by facilitating collaboration among the criminal justice, juvenile justice, veterans treatment services, mental health treatment, and substance abuse systems.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining

To hold hearings to examine the Bureau of Land Management's final rule on hydraulic fracturing.

SD-366